

As always, this battle will be fought in the appropriations process, and I plan to be a leader in assuring education funds are not cut. Supporters of education must continue to work within the constraints of the budget to assure education is made a top priority.

While I feel this bill is a small step in the right direction, there is still much work to be done to improve our public school system. I will support this bill but I feel very strongly that we cannot let the changes incorporated in the legislation lead to cuts in education funding.

**SALUTING SESQUICENTENNIAL  
CELEBRATION FOR OUR LADY  
OF VICTORY CHURCH ROCHESTER, NY**

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 23, 1998*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay special tribute to the legacy of Our Lady of Victory Church in Rochester, New York. The parish will celebrate its 150th year of ministry during a special Jubilee Celebration on Sunday, September 27, 1998.

Our Lady of Victory Church in Rochester was organized in 1848, after Bishop John Timon saw the need for his small congregation of French parishioners to have a church of their own. The church, which was established with approximately 300 parishioners, was known from that time until 1868 as St. Mary's French Catholic Church. Their building was located at the corner of Ely Street and Minerva Place in Rochester, New York.

Under the capable leadership of its pastors, the parish thrived and grew. New worship sites were erected over the years. Throngs of people attended daily Mass, Novenas, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and confession in the 1950's 1960's and 1970's.

Today, 150 years after its establishment, the parish at 210 Pleasant Street, Rochester, New York, enjoys its designation as a National Historic Landmark. There are 400 congregants and over 100 people attend their noon Mass each day. The parish, which is centrally located in the downtown area, also serves as a haven for many who have no home.

I am very proud of this long established and influential parish in my home district. Today, I ask that my colleagues pause with me to honor the legacy of one of America's thriving parishes: Our Lady of Victory Church in Rochester, New York. I am greatly honored to join many others in congratulating Our Lady of Victory for their service to humanity.

**TRIBUTE TO ELIZA BRIGGS**

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 23, 1998*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Eliza Briggs of Summerton, South Carolina, who died at the age of 81 on September 15 of heart failure. Ms. Briggs and her late husband Harry Briggs were among the principle petitioners in the lawsuit Briggs v. Elliott, which became the first of the five law-

suits which became collectively Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas. Those cases began the process of desegregating our nation's public schools.

Eliza Briggs' place in history has been often overlooked. She and her husband signed the lawsuit in 1949 that challenged fairness of Clarendon County's segregated school system. For decades following the lawsuit, the Briggs family suffered through stress and unrest due to their decision. The Briggses were fired from their jobs and forced to move to Florida to be freed of the community backlash. Later in life the Briggses returned to Clarendon county, and over time have were accorded the respect they deserved for their self-sacrifice in order to make South Carolina better.

Ms. Briggs has been described by friends and family as a humble woman full of grace and charm. She was one of many unsung heroes during the Civil Rights Movement that should be celebrated and remembered for putting her country before herself. She was presented the Order of the Palmetto, the highest commendation a South Carolina citizen can receive.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me today in honoring Eliza Briggs for her great work as a Civil rights Movement trailblazer. Her hard work should be remembered and celebrated by this House. Ms. Eliza Briggs will be sorely missed.

**IN MEMORY OF SYLVIA KLING**

**HON. PETER DEUTSCH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 23, 1998*

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Sylvia Kling. Sylvia passed away last Sunday and she will be greatly missed in the South Florida community.

After spending a large portion of her life in her native New York, Sylvia and her husband moved to Plantation, Florida, in 1973. This is where they both began their extraordinary work improving the lives of South Floridians.

For more than 15 years, Sylvia Kling volunteered at the Broward County Democratic Executive Committee's headquarters. Her devotion to the principles of the democratic process kept her very busy. Sylvia was continually active making fliers, working at phone banks, putting cards in doors, and standing at the polls with candidates of her choice. This dedication did not go unrecognized. Five years ago, she was honored by the county's Executive Committee as its volunteer of the year. In addition, Sylvia was elected as a delegate to the 1996 Democratic National Convention in Chicago.

Though the political arena was very important to Sylvia Kling, Sylvia's dedication to other causes was truly remarkable, as well. She worked to connect Jewish women with their roots in her association with Hadassah. Furthermore, Sylvia was interested in international matters as she was a member of both the Women's League of Israel and the Jewish War Veterans women's auxiliary. Sylvia was also a loving wife, mother, sister, grandmother, and aunt. Mr. Speaker, I can't think of anything more important than one's relationship with their family.

It is clear to all who knew her and knew of her that Sylvia Kling was an extraordinary woman whose tireless devotion to the residents of South Florida will be forever remembered. Her family will miss her, South Florida will miss her, and I will miss her.

**A TRIBUTE TO ST. ADALBERT  
CONGREGATION**

**HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 23, 1998*

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to St. Adalbert Church in South Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on the occasion of the congregation's 100th anniversary. I join with the Rev. Herbert B. Schubert and his parishioners in celebrating this very special event.

The congregation was named in honor of St. Adalbert, a 10th Century patron saint of Bohemia and Poland. Its beginnings were rather humble, but with great determination and hard work, a small church was built in 1898, with a rectory built two years later. Rev. Ladislaus Mscisz was St. Adalbert's first pastor, and served until 1912.

By 1905, Franciscan Sisters of St. Francis replaced lay teachers, and the church and school were enlarged. Rev. Bernard Burant succeeded Rev. Mscisz, but remained only nine months, after which Rev. Clement Zych was appointed as the congregation's third pastor. Rev. Zych faithfully served St. Adalbert's for 24 years, and during that time the congregation continued to grow. By 1927, a new church, school and convent was built.

The years following the stock market crash of 1929 were difficult for St. Adalbert's, but the congregation was determined to survive. With the depression came some very trying times, with increasing debts. In 1937, Rev. Zych was transferred to St. Adalbert's in Milwaukee, and Rev. Ladislaus Bednarski became pastor. During Rev. Bednarski's tenure as pastor, the debt was refinanced, but problems remained.

Rev. Theodore Lepak became pastor in 1950 after Rev. Bednarski was transferred to Blessed Sacrament in Milwaukee, but he became ill shortly thereafter and passed away in 1951. Rev. Michael Staczak was appointed pastor in 1951, and served until his retirement in 1975. During that time, due to the generosity of the congregation, the mounting parish debt was retired, and a new addition was added to the school. Unfortunately, shortly after completion, a gas explosion destroyed most of the new building. In 1968, the building was rebuilt and dedicated.

In July of 1975, the present pastor, Rev. Herbert Schubert, was appointed by Archbishop William Cousins. Since then, St. Adalbert's has seen the addition of kindergarten and junior kindergarten classes, a new pipe organ, and a number of updates to the facilities.

St. Adalbert Congregation has been truly blessed in 100 years of service to the Lord and to the community. Congratulations to St. Adalbert's and all its members on this very special anniversary. May the congregation continue to grow and prosper as it begins its second century of service.